



National Nuclear Security Administration  
U.S. Department of Energy

# NEWS

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Steve Wyatt, (865) 576-0888

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## **DOE ISSUES RECORD OF DECISION ON Y-12 SITE-WIDE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**OAK RIDGE, Tenn.** – The Secretary of Energy has issued the Record of Decision on the Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the NNSA's Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The Record of Decision (ROD) is the formal statement of the agency's decision on the proposed action evaluated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Y-12 Site-Wide EIS looks at alternatives for modernizing facilities at Y-12 to ensure its capability to meet future stockpile needs in the post-Cold War era.

The Y-12 Site-Wide EIS evaluates the environmental impacts associated with continued operations at Y-12, as well as the construction and operation of new facilities. These include plans for a Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) Materials Facility and a Special Materials Complex, which are priorities for the Y-12 Modernization Program. The location for the HEU Materials Facility is in the Y-12 West Portal Parking Lot.

A location for the Special Materials Complex has not been decided. Ongoing studies involving the special materials mission and project configuration and design needs must be completed before a decision on a location can be made.

Y-12 is responsible for the refurbishment of nuclear weapons components, the storage and protection of special nuclear materials, quality evaluation and surveillance of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, and the dismantlement of nuclear weapons components. The plant is operated by BWXT Y-12 for the National Nuclear Security Administration, a separately-organized agency within the Department of Energy.

**-DOE-**

Public hearings on the EIS were held in January 2001. Public comments received during the public hearings and public comment period were addressed in the Final EIS, which was distributed in November 2001. The ROD can be found on the Internet at <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/Foia/Y12ROD.final.PDF>.

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